Southern Gold Society
FOUNDED 2001
www.SouthernGoldSociety.org
Newsletter

SGS Annual Gathering Shines at GNA Coin Show

The Southern Gold Society (SGS) hosted its annual gathering on April 11, 2025, during the Georgia Numismatic Association (GNA) Coin Show at the Dalton Convention Center. The event, open to all show attendees, drew nearly 20 enthusiasts eager to connect and explore the rich history of Southern gold coinage in a welcoming, gentlemanly setting.

The highlight of the gathering was a keynote presentation by Jeff Garrett, one of the nation's foremost numismatic experts and an SGS founding member. Garrett captivated the audience with an outstanding exploration of the Southern gold coins from the Great Kentucky Hoard, a remarkable discovery of over 700 Civil War-era gold coins unearthed in Kentucky. His talk delved into the historical context, rarity, and significance of these coins, bringing their story to life with a compelling video showcasing the moment of discovery. Attendees were mesmerized by footage of the coins being "plucked" from freshly tilled soil, revealing the gleaming gold with a simple flick of a finger. Garrett further enriched the experience by providing a complete inventory of the hoard as a handout and showcasing his personal collection, displaying one example of each coin type from the hoard.

Joining Garrett were fellow SGS founding members Al Adams, Carl Lester, and David Crenshaw, whose presence underscored the society's dedication to fostering thoughtful discourse on Southern gold coinage. The gathering provided a prime opportunity for collectors, dealers, and enthusiasts to share knowledge and celebrate one of the most intriguing numismatic finds in recent history.

The Southern Gold Society extends its gratitude to all who attended and invites everyone to join next year's gathering for another enriching experience in the world of numismatics.

Jeff Garrett captivates Southern Gold Society members with an engaging presentation on the Great Kentucky Hoard at the 2025 GNA Coin Show.

Jeff Garrett showcases his personal collection of Great Kentucky Hoard coin examples at the 2025 Southern Gold Society gathering.
(Photo courtesy of Carl Lester.)

Class 16: The New Orleans Mint Coinage and its History

Dive into the rich history of the New Orleans Mint, from its founding in 1835 to its closure in 1909, at the 2025 ANA Summer Seminar. Explore the silver and gold coins that rivaled Philadelphia's output, despite challenges like epidemics, tropical conditions, and Civil War upheavals. Learn about the 40+ coin types, key dates, major varieties, and grading through engaging discussions and

hands-on attribution exercises. Led by experts Craig Eberhart, Len Augsburger, and John Frost of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club and other numismatic societies, this course uncovers the Mint's storied past through its remarkable coinage. For more information, visit the ANA Summer Seminar website page here.

Revised Edition of The Early Years of the Louisiana Mint, 1837-1861

The revised edition of *The Early Years of the Louisiana Mint, 1837-1861* by Richard G. Kelly and Nancy Y. Oliver, recently brought to the Southern Gold Society's attention through correspondence with the authors earlier this year, is available on the Newman Numismatic Portal here. This expanded 158-page treatise builds on the original 75-page version, first noted in our December 5, 2023 post, offering a richer exploration of the New Orleans Mint's formative years.

Continue Reading

Writers Needed

One of the purposes of the SGS is to "enjoy each member's knowledge." This newsletter is one of the ways this numismatic knowledge is dispersed. The frequency of the newsletter is driven by the number of submissions for publication. The editor of the SGS eNewsletter needs new material and welcomes the opportunity to review your original article for publication. Articles should be relevant to the study of the gold coins and related history of the Dahlonega, Charlotte, and New Orleans branch mints and private minters Templeton Reid and the Bechtlers. If you do a presentation at a gathering or other venue, consider compiling your notes into an article. Do not worry about the grammar. The editor will do the rest. Electronic manuscripts should be submitted by email to contactus@southerngoldsociety.org.

Mission Statement

The Southern Gold Society was formed to increase the enjoyment and study of Southern gold coins and related history, through an informal, relaxed mix of education and fellowship. The society is reminiscent of those of a bygone era, in which connoisseurship and a gentlemanly appreciation of Southern gold coins is the order of the day.

Purpose

- To facilitate the enjoyment and study of the gold coins and related history of the Southern branch mints (Dahlonega, Charlotte, and New Orleans) and private Southern minters (Templeton Reid and the Bechtlers).
- To enjoy each member's knowledge and friendship in an informal manner.
- To provide a relaxed, pleasant environment in which to meet during selected coin shows and other convenient events.
- To encourage the appreciation and preservation of a Southern gold coin’s original surfaces.
- To consolidate the information, resources, and talent available to enthusiasts of these historic Southern gold coins.

Annual Membership Fees

Regular $25 (January-December).

Membership for new members joining in October, November, or December extends through the next year. Checks for membership fees should be made payable to the Southern Gold Society and mailed to David Crenshaw, P.O. Box 237, Dacula, GA 30019-0004.

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Our mailing address is:
Southern Gold Society
P.O. Box 237
Dacula, GA 30019